

# Scripture Fulfillment

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# Introduction

- Like other Jewish postbiblical writings as well as the later rabbinic literature, the New Testament evinces direct quotations of and allusions to Israel's Scriptures.
- Most common in the gospel of Matthew and John
- “Proofs” of the legitimacy of Jesus
- Testimonia: to show connections between Jesus and Israel's Scriptures

# Fulfillment formula

- Common word usage
- The birth of Jesus: Matthew's description of Jesus's birth vs Hebrew Isaiah (word choice of virgin vs young woman)
- Christ came to fulfill the Law
- Matthew understands texts from centuries earlier to refer to events related to Jesus
- Repeated formula "This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying..." appearing 10 times in Matthew

# Conclusion

- Texts are not solely meant for their original audience
- Every generation and reader, finds a way to make the text relevant

# Works Cited

Hays, Richard B. *Echoes of Scripture in the Gospels*. Baylor University Press, 2016.

Sheridan, Ruth. *Scripture Fulfillment*. Oxford University, 2017